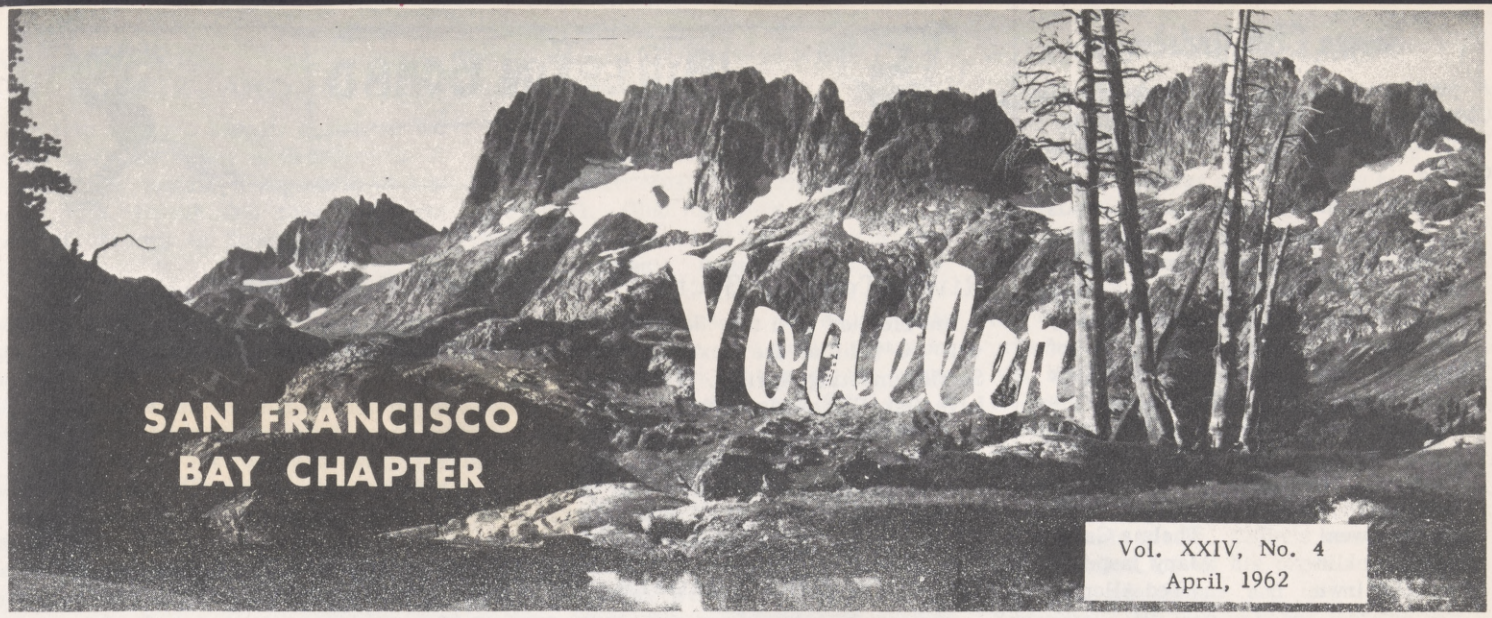

Vol. XXIV, No. 4
April, 1962

Heart's Desire: Hope Revives Point Reyes Advances

The Inverness Improvement Association, which is a very active group interested in the conservation of the Tomales Bay Area, has been working on the State Department of Parks and Recreation to get it to "de-improve" the scarred hinterland of Heart's Desire Beach on Tomales Bay. (see Yodeler, September 1961). The story of their efforts, as told to the Bay Chapter conservation committee by Mrs. William Eastman, is a study in the mistakes made by a department which does not always let its right hand know what its left hand is doing.

Before 1954 the Inverness Improvement Association worked on the first plans of the Tomales Bay Beach Parks, getting parking areas pushed back from the beaches. In 1954 the State Park Commission adopted policy against parking on the shoreline. As late as 1961 the Department stated they had no plans for development. Suddenly, money was available, and at some level in the Department the decision was made to cover the marsh with the ugly parking ground we described in September. The Association has been hard at work ever since, using the Yodeler articles and other publicity, to correct the damage as far as possible. Their letter to Mr. DeTurk asks removal of the fill and asphalt, a buffer strip of native planting wide enough to conceal all automobile traffic from the beach, and provision of sufficient stream flow to keep the salt out of the creek so alders will grow again. Unsightly trash cans and firestalls would be removed. Indian and Shell beach would be preserved as natural as they are now, with trail access only. The Association letter has had sympathetic attention in Sacramento and perhaps the publicity on Heart's Desire Beach may really bring improvement and a consistent plan.

Point Reyes National Seashore advanced a step in March, partly because the House Sub-Committee on National Park lands took favorable action on the bill, partly because a proposed "swap" of lands may allow the

CONTINUED PAGE 4

SIERRA CLUB MOURNS BARBARA TILDEN

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of one of the most active members of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Barbara Tilden had been ill for several weeks with the flu when she was taken on March 13 at the age of 38.

Serving her fourth year as chairman of the River Touring Section, Barbara was well along on the arrangements for the western and national river touring championships

to be conducted by the chapter on the Feather River in late June.

She was one of the first of our members to participate in river touring, besides pioneering our snowshoeing activities. She joined the Sierra Club in May 1948 and served the chapter continuously until the time of her death. Her chapter "career" involved membership on the entertainment, local walks, river touring and racqueteer committees, as well as four years on the chapter executive committee.

Several Christmas parties owed their

CONTINUED PAGE 4

I & E. CONFERENCE TO BE HELD APRIL 7-8

Are you one of those who planned to go to the Sierra Club Information and Education Conference in Santa Barbara this year, but put off sending in your reservation? It's not too late to send your $1.50 registration fee to Dorothy Otto, 136 Cedar Lane, Santa Barbara. Include, also, your reservation (but no advance payment, please) for lunch ($1.25) and dinner ($3.50). The lunch, smorgasbord, will be set out in the patio of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, where the Conference will take place. We will be served a prime rib dinner at the Mar Monte Hotel, before a sweeping view of sea and mountains, and nearby Bird Refuge.

Chartered bus ($12.50) leaves San Francisco Friday night, April 6. Reserve with Ken Goodden, 2015 Stockton St., S.F., GA 1-2505; or Hasse Bunnelle, 6466 Pinehaven Rd., Oakland, OL 5-3652. (For additional details see March YODELER.)

Come join your fellow Sierra Club members in a weekend of thought and talk, of gastronomical delights and comradeship.

Margaret H. Gwinn, Chairman
San Francisco Bay Chapter

STATE SENATE HONORS WILLIAM COLBY

Sixty years ago, when William E. Colby was first appointed Secretary of the Sierra Club, Yosemite Valley was still a State Park — a jewel in a ring of National Park lands. It was a very scarred and dusty jewel, overgrazed, already crowded, commercialized, and existing on $15,000 a year from the State. Young Colby was asked to lead the young Sierra Club, with a few hundred members, in the fight to return Yosemite Valley to the Nation. The consent of the Legislature was needed of course, and state jobs were involved. The Assembly was favorable, but the Senate was the chief opponent. After a hard fight, the measure

CONTINUED PAGE 3

Sierra Club Yodeler

A publication of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Address all communications to Yodeleditor, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4

For club members only, classified ads (private transactions), will be accepted at the rate of 35¢ per line of printed copy. The 'enterprise' rate is 70¢ per line. Persons submitting ads may compute their copy on the basis of approximately 7 words per line. Check must accompany copy. Commercial advertising is solicited. Please request rate card.

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VOL. XXIV, No. 4 April, 1962

Dear Editor:

Your readers might be interested to know of the tremendous public interest in the recent hearing before the Monterey County Board of Supervisors on the ordinance to make it possible to prosecute in local courts violations of the Forest Service closure order against the use of certain trails by motor scooter riders. The final count of the Clerk of the Board shows a total of 874 communications received - 585 in favor of the ordinance, 289 against. I am informed by the Deputy Clerk that many of the opposing letters came from other parts of the country and are traceable to paid ads in trade journals. She tells me that in her seven years of service she has never seen more than a fraction of this number of communications on any subject.

The fact was brought out at the hearing that petitions to the Forest Service are being circulated nationally by the manufacturers and sporting goods stores. What can we do to counteract it?

Sincerely,

Edward Graves

RAINIER GUIDE SERVICE

- CLIMBS OF ALL PACIFIC NORTHWEST PEAKS
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- MAY 23 TO JUNE 10 McKINLEY EXPEDITION

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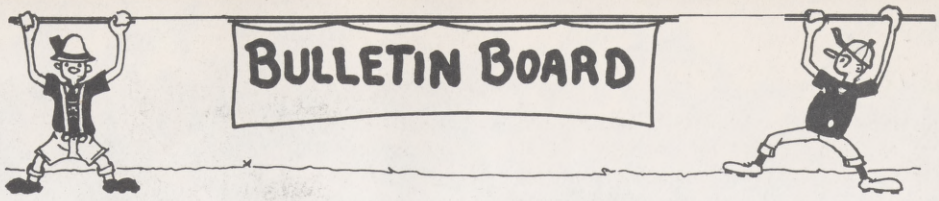

River Touring Section

An election of a new Section Chairman will be held at the next River Touring Section meeting April 4, at 8 p.m. at the Live Oak Community Center in Berkeley. Nominations from the floor will be accepted, as well as the recommendations of a nominating committee composed of present Section officers. —Bob Hawley

Attention Hike Leaders

Will the hike leader who has retained one of the leader's bags including a first aid kit at his home for the past 5 months please return it to the club office? We badly need the first aid kit which also has to be filled with additional first aid supplies purchased by us. —Hiking Committee

Schedule Supplement

APRIL 1 - RCS - Climb at Hunters Hill has been cancelled.

APRIL 28 - HIKING - An easy loop trip which will combine all of the beauty of Marin into less than four miles will be led on April 28 by Fritz and Rachel Schuder. Meet at Pan Toll at 9:20. For the same money, the leaders are also offering a Jumbo-sized trip by having those who want to hike farther meet at Bootjack Camp at the same time. No drinking water will be available at the lunch site.

APRIL 28-29 - MOUNTAINEERING. Change of location from Sawtooth Ridge to Lassen Volcanic National Park.

APRIL 8 - SUNDAY ROCK CLIMBING
INDIAN ROCK CLIMBING SCHOOL
ORGANIZATION CANCELLED. WATCH FOR NOTICE IN FALL SCHEDULE

San Francisco Dinner Meeting

A "Preview of Summer Outings" will be the program of the dinner meeting on Thursday, April 26, at the Golden Gate Yacht Club. Start making plans for your summer vacation while viewing the slides of the many enjoyable activities offered by the Club Outing Committee.

Social hour begins at 6 p.m. Dinner — $2.00 — at 7 p.m. Reservations: before 9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24. Call Mary Townsend, JO 7-5640, or Ruth Kaufman, MA 1-2783.

East Bay Dinners

"North of the Arctic Circle" will be the title of a talk by Charlotte Mauk, secretary of the Board of Directors for the Sierra Club, at the Wednesday dinner, April 11. Charlotte will describe her trip, where one sleeps in the "daytime" and walks and works in the cooler "night time", though the sun goes round and round and never sets.

Meet for conversation at 6 p.m. at Willard Jr. High School, Telegraph near Ward, Berkeley; dinner at 6:30 and program at 7:30 p.m.

Note the change of location for the April 25 dinner, which will be at Jefferson School Cafeteria, Rose and Acton Streets, Berkeley. Here H. Stewart Kimball will preview many of the summer outings. Make reservations early (see Schedule) for this very popular meeting.

Marin Area Group

"Previews of the Summer Outings" will be featured at the Marin Area Group at its April meeting. The latest in camping gear and foods from Bay Area suppliers will also be shown. Members are invited to bring their own pet camping gadgets to the meeting which will be on Friday, April 27, at Park School, 360 E. Blithedale, Mill Valley, at 8 p.m.

Members should make their own labels (signed) for each item submitted, and there will be prizes for the most interesting and original. Gadget shows are fun—so bring yours along!

Mountaineering Section

Dr. Howard Parker will speak on high altitude medical problems Wednesday, April 25, at 8 p.m. at the Rotary Natural Science Center, Lake Merritt, Oakland.

SKI TOURERS BRAVE BLIZZARD

The trip from Mt. Lincoln to Benson Hut and on to Squaw Valley on February 24-25 proved to be almost a repetition of last year's trip, though this time the party made it through to Squaw despite poor weather.

The trip was well attended with 16 people starting out at 2 p.m. On top of Mt. Lincoln the weather had cleared sufficiently to make the jaunt to Benson Hut feasible and pleasant. An immense quantity of new snow covered the usually barren ridge.

The party kept together reasonable well and arrived at the hut virtually en masse at 5 p.m. It was a pleasant surprise to be greeted with a warm hut and snow already melted on a blazing fire. The latter was furnished by Bob Stevens of the Redwood Chapter, who had been in residence for several days, having traveled in on snow shoes. His hospitality was very welcome and he made a creditable addition to the party for the rest of the trip.

A few stalwarts dropped packs and ascended Mt. Anderson to check the slope for stability. Although the slope was heavily loaded with snow, the low temperature precluded the danger of avalanche. The run down in new powder was worth the climb.

As happened last year, Sunday opened to poor weather and limited visibility, but an initial survey at the peak of Mt. Anderson did not indicate the extremely violent wind of last year. After some deliberation, it was decided to continue the trip. Having passed the point of no return, the weather deteriorated alarmingly and before long we were battling a howling blizzard.

When everybody was nearly frozen stiff, the welcome landmark of Tinker's Knob loomed out of the murk to the right. In short order we were off the ridge and down in the valley. There was some relief from the biting wind though the weather was not encouraging.

A short lunch stop was made but the cold forced us on again. After a 10 hour struggle the party coasted down the hill to Squaw Valley at 6 p.m., and what a pleasant sight it was. The stamina of the party was superb and all are to be commended on the cheerful fortitude in which they pushed through to destination, despite some miserable weather.

By the law of averages, next year should have better weather, but as we nurse our raw blisters and frostbitten faces and limbs, there are not many of the party ready to plan a repeat trip at this time.

—Ian C. Begg

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PEOPLE OUTNUMBER MUSHROOMS

About 75 Sierra Club members and 7 mushrooms turned out for the Natural Science Section Mushroom Hike on Sunday, March 11. Club members gathered at the entrance to Samuel P. Taylor Campground in Marin County. Because it was raining, the group decided to hike up out of the canyon in the direction of the nearby peak where there is a fire lookout station.

On the way back a few of the group stopped along the trail and found the 7 mushrooms of which none were edible. Although we have had a rainy season this winter, the lack of mushrooms in the area is probably due to the coldness of the season. It takes a balance between warmth and dampness to bring out mushrooms in large numbers. We look forward to another season when this combination of weather conditions will occur.

—Elizabeth McClintock

MOUNTAINEERS PLAN CASCADE CLIMB

The summer is approaching rapidly and the rush to the mountains will soon begin. Come join the Mountaineering section with a week in the Cascade Pass area of Washington. This is a trip for serious climbers who want to do some mountaineering in this excellent area. Here, in a rugged and scenic area, we expect to find plenty of climbs to match the ambitions and abilities of anyone. This is your chance to use the techniques that you learned on the snow and ice training trips.

The party will be limited to twelve competent climbers, and transportation should be arranged by the individual to meet at a designated spot on Sunday morning, July 15. A central commissary is planned.

For additional information contact leaders Dave McFadden and Francis Walcott or any Mountaineering Section committee member. Signups close on June 7.

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WILLIAM COLBY (from P. 1)

passed the Senate by only one vote.

On March 10, 1962, History made amends; the State Senate presented Colby with an illuminated address acknowledging his immense, lifelong, contribution to conservation and congratulating him on the occasion of his eighty-sixth birthday (actually in Fall of 1961). A group of friends assembled at the Coast Galleries at Big Sur for this presentation. Edward Graves, of Carmel, who had arranged the gathering, showed an inspiring series of his magnificent slides. Senator Fred Farr of Carmel represented the Senate, presented the Address and spoke briefly of Colby's accomplishments and of his own plans for conservation of California's scenic beauty. Colby's keen memory then recalled for us his experiences with that long ago Senate and their fight for Yosemite. He remembered that the San Francisco Examiner ran a big picture of Yosemite Falls with the caption, "Will you let them take this back to Washington?" Fortunately other papers supported the bill (except one in Lodi, said Colby). The bill passed, and another fight in the national Congress ended successfully.

The Park Service put $50,000 a year into administration, the falls stayed where they were, the cattle and fences disappeared, and in a few years it was hard to remember that the Valley was a late comer to the National Parks.

—C.M.C.

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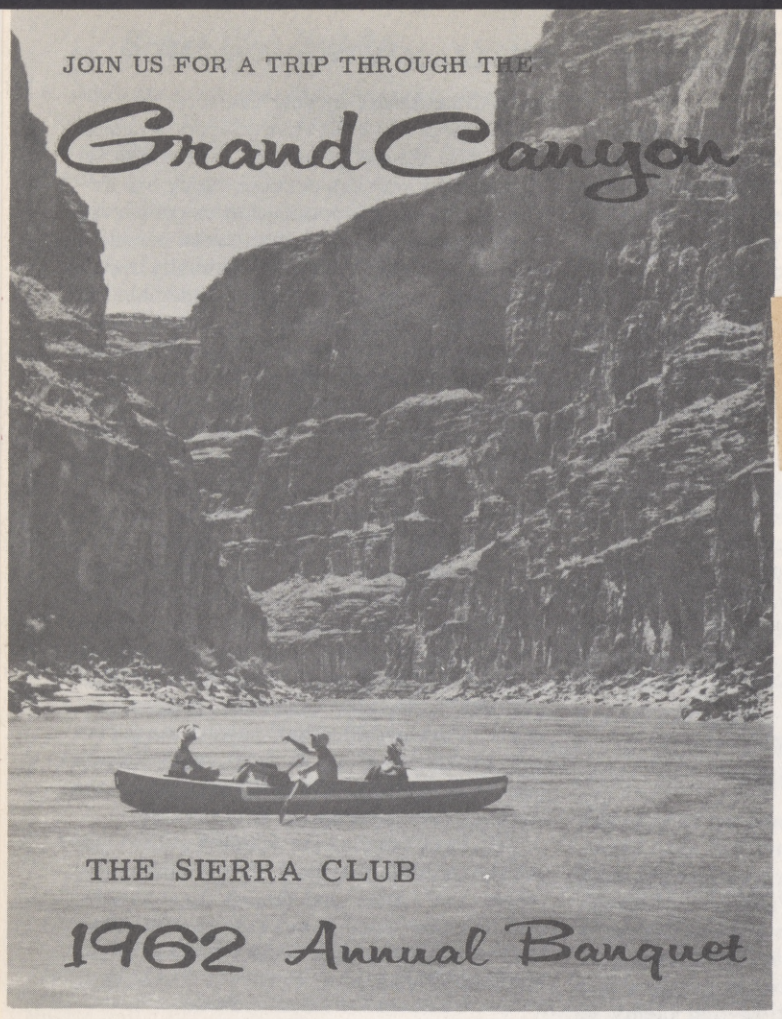

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DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1962
TIME: 6:00 p.m. Social Hour & Special Exhibits
7:30 p.m. Dinner
PLACE: GOODMAN'S HALL, Jack London Square, Oakland

Our River Tour Leader
MARTIN LITTON, Travel Editor, Sunset Magazine

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Conservation (Cont. from p. 1)

beautiful wooded center of the proposed park to come into public ownership. There is many a slip twixt cup and lip, though, and the bill must be approved by the whole Committee, then by the Rules Committee, probably by a Joint Committee of House and Senate, before coming to the whole House for passage. Perhaps 12 to 15 weeks are left before the summer adjournment would end all chance of action for years to come. Your friends in other States can help enormously by expressing their own feelings in this matter of providing enough seashore recreation for the future to their own Congressmen.

The project is far enough along, however, for the Inverness Improvement Association to give thought to the commercial development which is sure to follow creation of the park, and may soon become a "bandwagon" movement. An attempt to over-ride zoning rules in favor of a commercial development is now before the County Planning Commission and is being vigorously opposed by those who see the flood to follow. Careful plans to arrange the necessary commercial development around the Recreation Area demand attention now, and the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club has expressed its hearty support of such planning.

C.M.C.

Barbara Tilden (Continued)

success to Barbara's inspiration and organizational ability. The Yodeler was published under her editorship from 1952 to 1957. Though river touring and knapsacking were her principal outdoor sports, she was also interested in cave exploring, skin diving and golf. She enjoyed dancing and served as president of the Garfield Folk Dancers.

We shall best remember her for the enthusiasm and vitality with which she sparked any activity in which she participated. She introduced many people to our outdoor activities and by the warmth of her personality and the confidence she instilled in beginners, led them into active participation in club outings. We miss her, we regret her passing, but our lives are richer because we knew her.

Barbara resided in Piedmont and had been employed for the last several years at Shell Development in Berkeley. She leaves her mother, Mrs. Bertha Tilden of Piedmont, her sister, Mrs. Yvonne Sansome, and two nieces, Kathryn and Ashley Sansome of Orinda.

It is suggested that those who wish to assist in establishing a living memorial to Barbara Tilden, relative to her chapter outing activities, may do so by sending contributions in her name to the Conservation and Memorial Fund at the Sierra Club office.

-- R. D.

HELP

The new summer schedule will be ready for mailing on Wednesday, April 18. Time and place: 7:00 at the club office. We need many willing hands for sorting, counting and tying. The whole job will take about two or three hours at the most, and there will be refreshments. Do come.

Anyone who would like to help Ruth Kaufman with the addressing of the schedules, please call her at MA 1-2783 for further information.